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A Patient With Emaciation, Fever, Massive Hepatosplenomegaly and Pancytopenia

A 26 year-old female was admitted to the hospital with the complaints of fever, malaise, pronounced weight loss and abdominal pain for two years. Previously, she had undergone a detailed search for massive hepatosplenomegaly and pancytopenia including cultures for tuberculosis and brucellosis, liver biopsy and bone marrow aspiration and biopsy was but the diagnosis could not be made and she referred for a search for malignancy and explorative laparotomy if needed. A detailed history revealed that she had a domestic dog and came from Karabük where Kala-azar infection is endemic. Examination of bone marrow showed amastigotes of Leishmania Donavani in macrophages (Figure). Meglubimine, an antimony compound started for treatment and she recovered completely. Awareness is keyword to the diagnosis and prevents unnecessary investigations.